

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 5 <sup>Sub
A1</sup> 1. A device to descramble a packetized digital data stream,
comprising:
- 10 a receiver to receive a packet of a scrambled packetized
digital data stream, said packet including a header portion and a data
payload, and said data payload including a scrambled portion and a clear,
unscrambled portion; and
- 15 a descrambler to descramble said scrambled portion of said
data payload of said packet.
- 20 2. The device to descramble a packetized digital data
stream according to claim 1, wherein:
- 25 said scrambled portion of said data payload is at a location
within said payload portion of said packet such that said scrambled
portion is preceded and succeeded by unscrambled portions within said
packet.
- 30 3. The device to descramble a packetized digital data
stream according to claim 1, wherein:
- 35 said digital data stream comprises an MPEG-2 digital data
stream.
- 40 4. The device to descramble a packetized digital data
stream according to claim 1, wherein:
- 45 said packet contains compressed digital data.

5. The device to descramble a packetized digital data stream according to claim 4, wherein:

said compressed digital data includes a video signal.

5 6. The device to descramble a packetized digital data stream according to claim 4, wherein:

said compressed digital data includes an audio signal.

7. The device to descramble a packetized digital data stream according to claim 4, wherein:

10 said compressed digital data includes a video signal and an audio signal.

8. A method of scrambling a packetized digital data stream, comprising:

15 producing a data packet stream comprising a plurality of data packets; and

scrambling a first portion of a data payload of at least some of said plurality of data packets within said data packet stream without scrambling a header of said at least some of said plurality of data packets.

9. The method of scrambling a packetized digital data stream according to claim 8, wherein:

25 said scrambling leaves a second portion of said data payload of each of said at least some of said plurality of data packets unscrambled.

10. A method of scrambling a packetized digital data stream, comprising:

producing a data packet stream comprising a plurality of data packets; and

5 scrambling every n th one of said plurality of data packets, where n is an integer greater than 1, leaving remaining ones of said plurality of data packets unscrambled.

11. The method of scrambling a packetized digital data stream according to claim 10, wherein:

said data packet stream is an MPEG-2 digital data stream.

12. The method of scrambling a packetized digital data stream according to claim 10, wherein said data packet stream comprises:
15 compressed video data.

13. The method of scrambling a packetized digital data stream according to claim 10, wherein said data packet stream comprises:
20 compressed audio data.

14. The method of scrambling a packetized digital data stream according to claim 10, wherein said data packet stream comprises:
25 compressed video data and compressed audio data.

15. A method of descrambling a packetized digital data stream, comprising:

receiving a data packet stream comprising a plurality of data packets; and

5 descrambling every n th one of said plurality of data packets, where n is an integer greater than 1, leaving remaining ones of said plurality of data packets as received.

16. The method for descrambling a packetized digital data stream according to claim 15, wherein said packetized digital data stream comprises:

MPEG-2 digital data.

17. Apparatus for scrambling a packetized digital data stream, comprising:

means for producing a data packet stream comprising a plurality of data packets; and

means for scrambling a first portion of a data payload of at least some of said plurality of data packets within said data packet stream without scrambling a header of said at least some of said plurality of data packets.

18. The apparatus for scrambling a packetized digital data stream according to claim 17, wherein said data packet stream comprises:

25 an MPEG-2 digital data stream.

19. Apparatus for scrambling a packetized digital data stream, comprising:

means for producing a data packet stream comprising a plurality of data packets; and

5 means for scrambling every nth one of said plurality of data packets, where n is an integer greater than 1, leaving remaining ones of said plurality of data packets unscrambled.

20. The apparatus for scrambling a packetized digital data stream according to claim 19, wherein said data packet stream comprises:
10 an MPEG-2 digital data stream.

21. Apparatus for descrambling a packetized digital data stream, comprising:

15 means for receiving a data packet stream comprising a plurality of data packets; and

means for descrambling every nth one of said plurality of data packets, where n is an integer greater than 1, leaving remaining ones of said plurality of data packets as received.

20 22. The apparatus for descrambling a packetized digital data stream according to claim 21, wherein said data packet stream comprises:

25 an MPEG-2 digital data stream.